

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kouzou Fujino et al. : Art Unit:
Serial No.: To Be Assigned : Examiner:
Filed: Herewith :
FOR: LIGHT-GUIDE PLATE, AREA LIGHT :
SOURCE APPARATUS, AND IMAGE
READING APPARATUS



CLAIM TO RIGHT OF PRIORITY

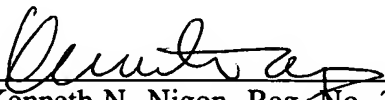
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 119, Applicant's claim to the benefit of filing of prior Japanese Patent Applications No. 2001-44,750, filed February 21, 2001, No. 2001-49,630, filed February 26, 2001, No. 2001-125,395, filed April 24, 2001 and No. 2001-391,549, filed December 25, 2001, as stated in the inventor's Declaration, is hereby confirmed.

A certified copy of each of the above-referenced applications is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


Kenneth N. Nigon, Reg. No. 31,549
Attorney for Applicants

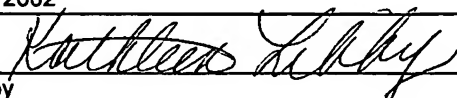
Enclosures: Certified Copies of Japanese Applications
Dated: February 21, 2002

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Kathleen Libby